

### POSITION OF PUPIL.

One of the most important things in teaching penmanship, both from a hygienic and practical point of view, is the position of the pupil at the desk. The following directions should be closely followed:

1.—Sit squarely facing the desk, with the feet flat on the floor. 2.—Raise the Seat so that both forearms, when placed half their length on the desk, are nearly level. 3.—Place paper squarely in front of the body. 4.—Sit erect.

Study the adjoining cut for the correct position.



## PEN HOLDING.

The pen should be held easily between the thumb and second finger, with the extended forefinger resting lightly upon it in such a way that both points of the nib shall press equally upon the paper. The direction of the penholder should be somewhat away from the body, along the line of the forearm. The hand should rest comfortably on the side. See cut on this page.

### HINTS TO TEACHERS.

The child should have pen, ink, and paper from the time he enters the primary school, both for writing and figuring. He learns to make legible characters quite as readily with the pen as with the pencil, the only difference being that the faults, while not greater in fact, appear more prominent on paper than on the slate. The pupil accustomed to the pen from the beginning, seldom acquires the habit of gripping the pen, a fault so common in pencil-using children.

For practice work, both in letters and figures, single-ruled paper should be used in all grades. The pupil should use a smooth-pointed pen and avoid too light lines.

Too much stress can not be laid upon the necessity for *enthusiasm* and *persistent effort* on the part of both teacher and pupil.

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Daguerre perfected a method of photography in 1838.
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Marshal da Fonseca, in 1889,
proclaimed Brazil a republic.

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"I would rather be right than President." Henry Clary.

The Pacific Railway and Suez
Canal were completed in 1869.

"Don't give up the ship," said
Saurence, just before he died.

The three principles of penmanship are: The Straight Line, |, The Right Curve, ), and The Left Curve, (.

The standard of measurement is called a space, which, in height, is the letter *i* without the dot, and, in width, is the distance between the points of the letter *u*. The chart on this page shows each letter and figure properly spaced.

There are three recognized movements in writing:

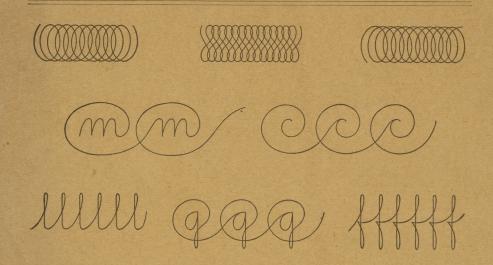
- 1st.—The Arm-movement, used chiefly in flourishing, in which the whole arm is employed without resting on the desk.
- 2d.—The Forearm-movement, in which the writing is done by rolling the hand back and forth on the muscle of the forearm.
- 3d.—The Finger-movement, which employs the two fore-fingers and thumb only.

Most children, on entering school, use the finger-movement almost exclusively, but the aim of the good teacher will be gradually to produce an EASY ROLLING MOTION, combining the forearm and finger movements.

# CHART SHOWING SPACING OF LETTERS AND FIGURES.

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